



Photo by Chris Aduama

## RCC'S JEFFERY CANNON NAMED NJCAA DIVISION III PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Sophomore has standout performances against  
Northern Essex, Massasoit and CCRI

By **Erin Harper**  
*Public Relations, RLTA*

BOSTON, MA – Roxbury Community College (RCC) Men's Basketball player, Jeffery Cannon, was named the NJCAA's (National Junior College Athletic Association) Division III Player of the Week for the week ending January 23, 2010.

The 6'5" guard/forward from East Boston High School (Boston, MA) averaged 25.0 points, 11.0 rebounds and 3.3 assists over three games during the week for the RCC Tigers, whose record now

stands at 14-3. In an 88-64 win over Northern Essex Community College on January 19, Cannon posted 21 points, 12 rebounds, four assists and four blocked shots in 32 minutes of action. On January 21, in a 116-67 win over Massasoit Community College, the Tigers' Co-Captain continued his spectacular week, posting 23 points and 11 rebounds. Concluding the week in a heartbreaking 91-92 loss to the Community College of Rhode Island, Cannon had 31 points, 10 rebounds and six steals in 34 minutes.

"Jeffery is one of the great leaders on our team," said Roxbury Head Coach,

Kwami Green. "He has been one of our most consistent players throughout the season and a big reason why we are 14-3. His phenomenal shooting ability, coupled with his tenacious defense, is invaluable to our team."

Cannon is currently ranked fourth nationally in points per game (26.0), while the RCC Tigers are ranked seventh in the national poll.

You can email Erin Harper, Press Contact at RLTA, at the following address: [charper@rcc.mass.edu](mailto:charper@rcc.mass.edu)

## LIBERAL ARTS DIVISION HAS BUSY SEMESTER

By **JoJo Jacobson**  
*Writing Center Associate*

The Language Lab and Writing Center co-host two Open Mics each month. Students perform their original work in a variety of genres and languages: singing, rapping, and reading poetry. Andre Cole, Hollywood Grant, U-Meleni Mhlaba, Quentin James, Kiki Grant, Alant Francois, KL Pereira, Dean Jenene Cook, Prof. Tua Nefer and other students, staff, and faculty share their work

in English, Spanish, French and Creole. Join us for the next Open Mic on Tuesday, April 20 from 12-1pm in the Writing Center.

The Criminal Justice Program held a Domestic Violence Panel and has introduced students to on a series of interesting programs: touring the Police Crime Lab, hearing from Colonel Marian McGovern, the first female colonel in the Massachusetts State Police, who

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Open Mic - Photo by Phuong Tang

## STEM: RIBBON CUTTING AT ROXBURY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

By **Dr. Milton Samuels**  
*Director, Marketing and Communications*

On February 11 the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Division held a Grand Opening to introduce the college community to their new Biotechnology Lab on the 5th floor of the Academic Building. Dr. Terry Gomes, President of RCC, welcomed the college and the honored guests after a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Dean Tala Khudairi of the STEM Division introduced guest speaker, Dr. Susan Windham-Bannister, the President and CEO of Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, who addressed the gathering on the importance of research in the field.

Dr. Alice Coombs, the incoming president of the Massachusetts Medical Society, personally welcomed the group and commended the college and the pioneering students in the program, encouraging them to move up the career ladder.

Finally, the faculty of the biotechnology program introduced a few of the students and then demonstrated some of the lab equipment at various stations.

The college will be awarding Associate of Science Degrees in Biotechnology as well as Biotechnology-Biomanufacturing certificates. Interested students should see Dr. Kristin Laird, Dr. Kimberly Steigltz, Dr. Stacey Olson or Dean Khudairi.



Roxbury Community College President Dr. Terry Gomes and Life Sciences Center President & CEO Dr. Susan Windham-Bannister prepare to cut the ribbon, officially opening the college's new Biotechnology Laboratory. (Photo by Dr. Milton Samuels)

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## OPEN MIC...

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spoke on women in law enforcement. In addition, on Wednesday, April 28, 2010, there will be a community outreach panel discussion on "Balancing Children and Careers in Criminal Justice": 11:00 a.m. to 12:30. Room to be announced. Prof. Emeritus Angel Amy-Moreno had

an opening of his new photography show, *Voces and Silencios*, that introduced the RCC community to photos from his latest visit to Spain. Faculty and students enjoyed the show and mingled over cheese and crackers.

Wednesday, April 14, 2010: Come hear a presentation by Colonel Marian McGovern, first female Colonel of the Massachusetts State Police in the department's 144 year history -10:30 a.m. to 12:00 in Room 3-121.

Wednesday, April 28, 2010: Informational panel discussion on "Balancing Children and Careers in Criminal Justice": 11:00 a.m. to 12:30. Room to be announced.

Honors students will present the culmination of their semester's research on May 6 at the end-of-semester Honors Presentations. Watch for emails and posters.

# LADY TIGERS PLAY HARD AND STAY COOL

By **Winston Kendall-Long**  
*Gazette Staff Reporter*

Roxbury Community College is bursting at the seams with school spirit. There are two fantastic reasons for excitement at RCC: the men's and the women's basketball team. In the 2009-2010 basketball season (1st and 2nd semester), both Male and Lady Tigers have brought an added pride to an already prideful tradition.

Tigers are fierce and blood-thirsty, and they show no mercy. They stick together. Both the Tigers and Lady Tigers are alike in that perspective.

The Lady Tigers opened their season with a 12-2 record on their way to finishing with a highly impressive 26-4 mark of excellence. Rewarded for their hard work, ambition and determination, both Tiger teams punched their tickets for the MCCAC State tournament. This particular tournament showcases the best community colleges in the state. The Tiger squads both dominated their opponents with a swift fierceness in each of their state tournament match-ups.

The Lady Tigers started their quest for success by showing absolutely no mercy to Bunker Hill Community College, defeating them 78-32. In their Championship push, the Lady Tigers were also very hungry, consuming their opponents 81-45. Both Tiger squads demanded five degrees of separation, propelling themselves into the NJCAA Region XXI Tournament.

The Lady Tigers started their Regional journey by beating UConn Avery Point in the semi-finals by the score of 79-68. Much to the dismay of the entire RCC

family, the Lady Tigers fought valiantly but were unsuccessful in capturing the championship for their region, losing to Manchester. Even though the Lady Tigers fell short of their ultimate goal, their resilience, positive attitudes, and great work ethic make them all champions from within. According to RCC's website ([www.rcc.mass.edu](http://www.rcc.mass.edu)), The Lady Tigers concluded their glorious season, prior to the state tourney, ranked seventh in the NJCAA National Poll. Not only did the Lady Tigers have a season to remember for the ages, they also had many individual accolades as well.

The Lady Tigers had six players that were awarded recognition for the '09-'10 season. Willeen Capehart received NJCAA Region XXI 2nd team, Jasmine McNeil received NJCAA Region XXI 1st team and Div. III pre-season 1st team all American, Jessica Underwood received NJCAA Region XXI 2nd team, and Christalee Lynch received NJCAA Region XXI Honorable Mention. Capehart and Holmes both were named to the All-Tournament team for their efforts in the MCCAC, while Lynch was named the MCCAC tournament MVP.

The Lady Tigers were guided in the right direction by their experienced coaching staff. Coach Mark Leszczyk was named the 2009 NJCAA Region XXI Coach of the Year, and he would not have been able to make that happen without the help of assistant coach Shakur Yahya and Team Manager Kiel Banks.

I had the opportunity to interview a few of the Lady Tigers and their Coach of the Year. Point Guard Rikita Allen was calm and down to earth as I listened to her answer me with a southern accent. When asked how it felt to be a part of

the Lady Tigers' success, Allen calmly answered, "It feels so great to be a part of a championship team for the first time."

Soon after I approached Sequetta "Butta" Samuels outside of the Reggie, adjacent to the RCC fanbus. As I introduced myself and my reason for doing so, "Butta" was all smiles and was eager to answer my questions. "It feels great that people will recognize my team's accomplishments," she stated. I asked Butta what was the Lady Tigers' main goal in the beginning of the season and she confidently explained, "Our attitude was to change the nature of the Lady Tigers, you know, make it a championship contender. We were able to make that possible because all my teammates listened to Coaches Mark and Shakur."

# MEN'S TIGERS SPRING INTO SPRINGFIELD

By **Winston Kendall-Long**  
*Gazette Staff Reporter*

The Tigers began their title quest with a first round win against Northern Essex Community College with 83-49 thrashing. In their state championship effort, the Tigers showed that they were hungry, consuming their opponents on the way to a 96-62 win. The men's squad jumped to a quick 10 wins in the beginning of the season before finishing up the season with a profound record of 21-3. As I boarded the fan bus with the cheerleaders, the Lady Tigers, and a few parents and students sprinkled in, I saw the radiant smiles like a ray of sunshine on a summer's day. As the bus took off from the Reggie bound for Springfield Tech Community College, the site of the men's regional championship, the camaraderie of the cheerleaders and the Lady Tigers was revealed almost instantly. They laughed and joked jubilantly, portraying their loving friendships in abundance. Nearly every "Lady" wanted to be interviewed!

When the fan bus arrived at Springfield Tech's campus, the voice of RCC filed into the gym. The Cheerleaders and Lady Tigers let their voices be heard immediately. As the Tigers were getting ready for combat, they looked up with smiling appreciation as their supportive fan club had arrived.

Assistant Coach DeMarco Lundy told me, "If we come to to play with the enthusiasm and the energy all the time like we usually do, then I like our chances to beat any team in the country."

Athletic Director Keith McDermott introduced me to the president of RCC, President Terrence Gomes who was real down to earth and gave me a brief synopsis of the RCC vs. Gateway rivalry. He assured me that we were in for a grueling fast paced game. I flexed my wrist in preparation for the action.

From the tip-off, Gateway got the first possession, but the Tigers were fierce

# RCC OPENS LANGHART PLAY ON MAINSTAGE

By **Judy Kahalas**  
*Editor*

On Thursday evening, March 4, the college community was treated to the Boston premiere of the play, *Anne and Emmett*, written by former Boston news anchor Janet Langhart and directed by Robbie McCauley. Mainstage Theater

felt like opening night on Broadway. A gathering of community leaders, who were presented Gateway Awards earlier in the evening for outstanding commitment to our college, to the ideals of service and to the promotion of diversity, had an opportunity to speak with Ms. Langhart. She also spoke informally with the audience after the play.

Highly acclaimed director Robbie McCauley worked with Ms. Langhart to bring the story of Anne Frank and Emmett Till to life. The characters were based on two victims of racism whose lives were filled with tension during different periods of the 20th century. They meet in a place called Memory, and their unique but parallel stories unfold.

Kudos to the RCC Foundation, Ms. Carol Bliss-Furr, Director of Development, and Mr. Marshall Hughes, Director of Media Arts, for bringing such outstanding talent and a memorable opening night to the Mainstage.



*Anne & Emmett - Photo by Dr. Milton Samuels*



*Photo by Phuong Tang*

## 2nd ANNUAL TALENT SHOW OFF

An Evening of Poetry, Singing, Dancing and Rap

### TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2010

### 6pm - 9pm

Roxbury Community College  
Media Arts Building Auditorium  
1234 Columbus Avenue Roxbury Crossing, MA

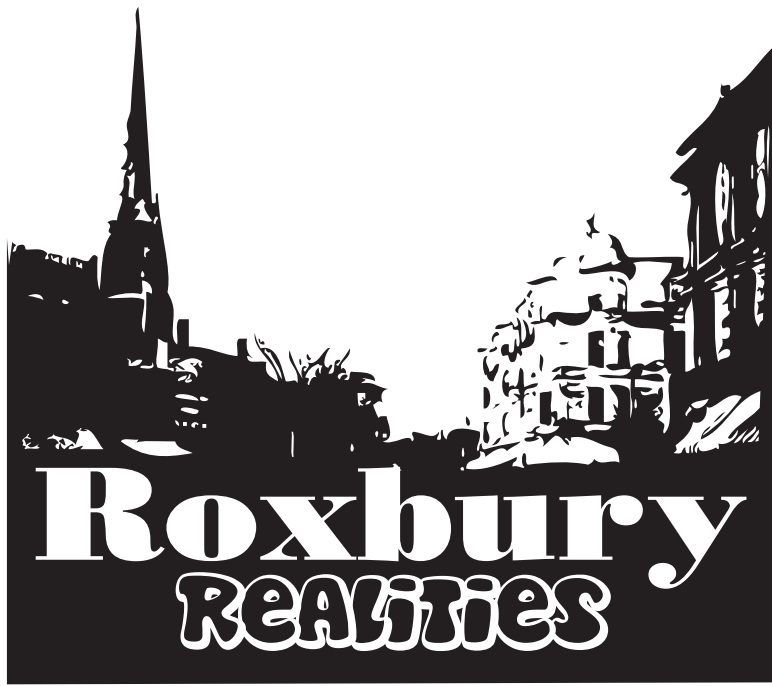
Admission: \$5.00



*Photo by Chris Aduana*

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# DEPRESSION DOESN'T DISCRIMINATE



By **La'zae Jonathan Hart**  
Staff Reporter

Depression was once never thought of as an enemy our children would have to deal with. But depression says different. After interviewing more than 13 college students on whether or not they have depression, I learned people are depressed and don't even know it. Every student who answered "no" to dealing with depression, I questioned on experiencing the symptoms of depression. More than half had or are currently dealing with depression-like symptoms.

One student said depression was for "losers." I asked him if he ever felt worthless or uncertain of himself. He said "yes." I asked him if he ever has

mood swings or trouble concentrating. Again he said "yes." I then kindly broke it to him that he may be experiencing depression and not even know it.

A female student said she's been dealing with depression for the past five years and takes medication for it. Her depression was brought on by a nervous breakdown she endured after the death of her mom. "I denied it for the first year or so, but after the weight loss and hospitalization, something had to be done."

Another man I interviewed said he wasn't depressed but that he had lost a friend to depression. He said his friend committed suicide behind his depression.

Depression is a very serious problem especially amongst teens. If unrecognized, it is hard to treat. Teenagers also experience depression different from adults, so it may be harder to detect. Depression, though treatable, goes untreated in about 80% of teens according to experts.

Suicide amongst teens is directly connected to depression in well over 50% of the cases. Most teens, without adult intervention, cannot defeat depression. For more information on teen depression, go to <http://www.teendepression.org/>

# THE STRUGGLE OF A TEEN PARENT: LIFE IN A TLP

By **Renee Keyes**  
Special Reporter

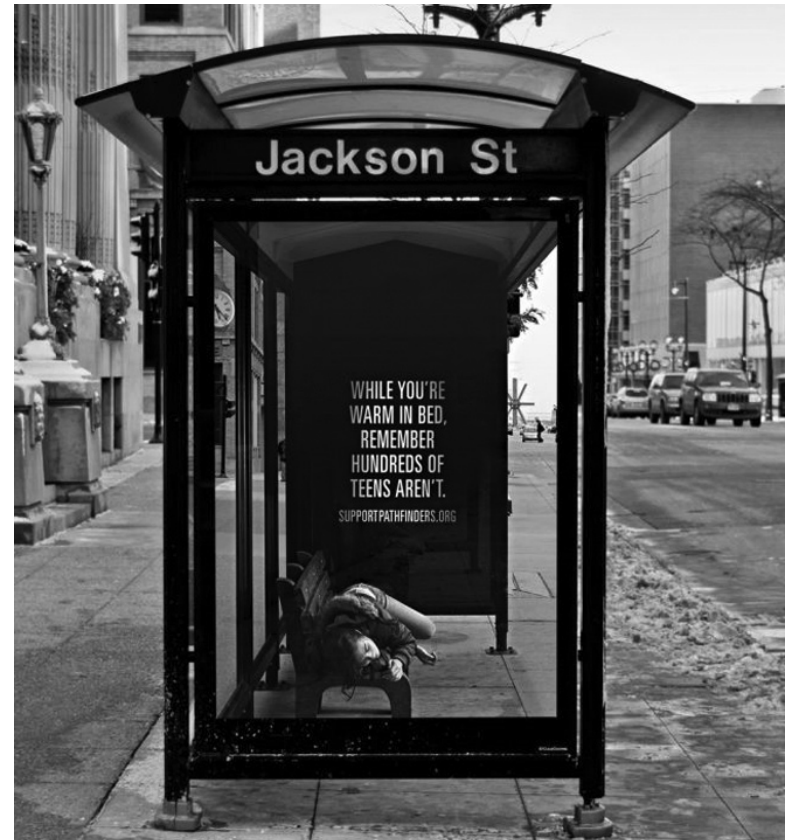
I can remember it like it was yesterday. Living in a Teen Living Program's scattered site shelter every day was repetitive with workshops and many house checks, but it was heaven compared to living at the main shelter. It was the first day of school for me and my daughter which meant I didn't have to be there all day.

On my way home I could smell that there was a fire in the air and when I got closer, I saw clouds of smoke coming from the direction of the shelter. By the time I got there, the fire was out. One of the staff, Mikey, was there. She told us to grab only what we would need for the night for the children. They were shipping us back to the main shelter. I felt like I was being taken back to jail. It was hard to get chosen to be moved to the teen scattered site.

I felt as though I needed to grab a few things, even though Mikey told me not to worry. I took my suitcase, my small radio and Playstation that I had from before coming into the shelter. I was going to need some entertainment if I was going back to the main shelter where - instead of an apartment- I was going to have a small room and have to share a TV with 11 other families and be under watch 24/7 by Camera.

I have seen staff doing their dirty work scheming their way to get children separated from the teen parents they didn't like. I have seen the staff pick on a 15-year-old pregnant girl so badly that she had never been able to leave the shelter. They always found some reason to take away her curfew; she could only go group shopping with the staff. They had a hard time finding faults in me. I hated that I was going back to this place, the closest I have experienced to jail. In fact we all joked around about it being like jail and did our chores to the song Locked Up by Akon. I did know then that they had something in store for me.

The night of the fire, pizza was donated for the 4 teen families. Two of us had



Soure: Pathfinders Teen Homeless Shelter

kids who couldn't eat pizza; they were babies. When we voiced our opinions to the staff, they decided to tell us that they had 1 Stop and Shop gift card for \$10 that we all had to share. One of the four girls left and the rest stayed with family. I had nowhere to go, so I stayed.

The next day I talked with my Healthy Families' worker, Lanicy, form Catholic Charities. She asked me if we got the Stop and Shop gift cards. I told her we had to split a \$10 gift card. She was enraged because they donated two gift cards for each family. Most of the donations were stolen. In fact, when I went back to get the rest of my stuff from the burnt shelter, everything was stolen and the staff had no explanation besides "the people we had pack your stuff took it." But she would never tell us who packed it. Everything I had bought that I saved up to buy for when I got my apartment was gone including things my father bought me. Even though Catholic Charities already donated gift cards, they

donated more and hand delivered them. The shelter never did anything to help me find an apartment. They sent the three other girls' names to get Section 8 vouchers and when I got there they told me they didn't send my name. They told me there was nothing I could apply for. After I spoke with Lanicy, she took me to Teen Parent Day at the State House. I spoke with Lynn Senator Thomas McGee. I told him my life story and what happened with the fire. He quickly had one of his aides help me. Within two week I received an apartment in Lynn at the same place that denied me.

From this experience I learned how to speak up for what is right. It opened up many opportunities for me. I did public speaking at the State House and interned for Senator McGee. I wouldn't be as ambitious as I am today if I didn't have these experiences. I know that even if times are bad, good things can happen if you keep positive and fight for what you want.



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\*December 2009 survey by Payscale.com



The Gateway Gazette is the official publication of the student body of Roxbury Community College. Submissions from the college community are welcome. All submissions are subject to editing. Opinions stated within the paper are not necessarily endorsed by the newspaper staff.

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OPINIONS

IT'S STILL MY CITY

By Judy Kahalas  
Editor of The Gateway Gazette

It's a rite of spring: jogging around Jamaica Pond, along the outer banks of this magnificent jewel in the Emerald Necklace of the city, where the sights and sounds of my city uplift my spirits as much as the weather does. There, over by the Boat House, sit two elderly gentlemen trying to tell each other about their lives, the sounds of their accents distinctly different as they struggle to communicate in a common language. See the joggers running past me – the heavy-set woman with braids in her hair

struggling to keep up with her partner, an attractive and prematurely gray young woman who is talking about her patients at the hospital. A variety of people pass by, bursting with life on this delightfully balmy afternoon.

There are young mothers wheeling babies, ducks and ducklings, dogs and puppies, and an assortment of languages and people that make this day come vibrantly alive. It is my city, diverse in its sounds, its smells, its neighborhoods. This is the Boston that has been my home for all my life, and I will tell its story in small pieces.

In the 1950's Boston kids grew up on the streets. Mine happened to be in Mattapan, on a tree-lined road that was sprinkled with triple deckers, two-family houses, and some single family homes. We had choices: the schoolyard down the block, the playground on Almont Street, or – on rainy days – someone's wood-paneled "Rec Room." But it was to the street that we all gathered.

Mothers looked out for each other's children, but it usually wasn't necessary. We were busy playing double dutchies, hopscotch, stickball, up against the stairs, and box ball. It wasn't until it began to grow dark and you'd hear mothers calling the names of their children that we

realized it was time to go in for dinner. For a nickel you could go anywhere in the city: Carson Beach, City Point, Old Ironsides, the Science Museum, and town. Even better, you could go for free if you were under 10 and you used a little ingenuity. The "T" was called the MTA, and there was a turnstile through which you pushed your way after depositing your nickel. However if, as in my case, your mother decided to save that nickel and use it towards school clothes, then you could "duck under" until you could no longer duck that low. For me, that was until I was about 16 and insisted on holding my head high.

The MTA was an adventure in itself. The blind man who sold pencils, the man without legs (my friends swore that he got up at 5 o'clock and walked onto the train every day), the musicians whose cups jangled with change, were all part of the entertainment.

The elevated train tilted precariously as it passed from Eggleston to Dudley Station. It took us "in town" to a magical corner filled with bustling shoppers, store windows that exploded with choices, and restaurants that pleased every palate and pocket. For back-to-school clothes, we would hit all three of the major department stores that

took up whole corners of Washington, Winter or Summer Streets. Gilchrist's sold amazing macaroon cookies, Jordan Marsh had the best blueberry muffins in the city, but Filene's had The Basement. It is here that most mothers in our neighborhood of Mattapan took their offspring clothes-shopping.

No one would balk at the sight of half naked children, pleading with their mothers to hide them from peeping eyes. But no dressing rooms and great bargains meant that we kids had no choice. We were forced into various stages of undress to try on the perfect sweaters from high-end stores throughout the country, no matter that the "second" was a missing sleeve or a broken zipper! It was still a bargain, according to the mothers of Boston.

Saturday mornings in town concluded with lunch at Prince Spaghetti House, on lower Washington Street, and then an ice cream sundae at Bailey's on Tremont. The city was preparing itself for evening, when grown-ups would go to theater, movies, or dinner. We kids would happily eat Chinese take-out and watch the "TV set." Tomorrow was another day, and we could play on the streets before relatives came to visit.

FAVORITE CLOTHING

By Faduma Farah  
Staff Reporter



My favorite piece of clothing is my hijab. This is a traditional piece of Muslim clothing. It covers a woman's hair, ears, neck, and body. I wear my hijab because of my religion. My hijab makes me feel good and comfortable.

Hijabs come in different sizes and colors. Some hijabs are made of silk and cotton. I love to wear the bright ones because it brings me out from darkness. You can style them the way you want, as long as you are wearing them appropriately.

Some people think hijab is the covering of the hair. Therefore, from the verse, it becomes evident that the purpose of hijab is to cover. Although from one point

of view the girls in jeans and a head-covering may be "covered," the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) once mentioned that there are women who are kasiyat 'ariyat, meaning both "covered and naked at the same time." This refers to those who wear clothes that are too tight or short and transparent and therefore reveal their bodies, thereby completely missing the point of the hijab.

Overall, my hijab makes me feel strong and beautiful. When I wear my hijab, I feel free and relaxed. I don't have to worry about people looking at me sexually and harassing me on the streets.

THE BOONDOCK SAINTS II: ALL SAINTS DAY

By Jonathan Hart  
Staff Reporter

The sequel to Boondock Saints, All Saints Day, doesn't disappoint. It stars Sean Flanery, also known for his roles in Borderline, Demon Hunter, and Ten Inch Hero. It also stars Norman Reedus (Blade II, and American Gangster), and Billy Connolly, the famous Scottish comedian known for his roles in movies such as X Files: I Want To Believe, Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties, and Open Season.

Flanery and Reedus play Connor and Murphy MacManus, with Billy Connolly as their father Il Duce. Most sequels tend to try to stretch the glow of their predecessor, only to overreach and tarnish what could've been a great saga. Fortunately for us, the Saints said their prayers.

The Saints, Connor and Murphy, are hiding out from authorities in Ireland along with their father. An unknown force pushes the Saints back into action by murdering an innocent priest using the same signature the Saints used to kill their victims. With special agent Eunice Bloom (Julie Benz) by their side, the Saints are back to taking out the trash.

All Saints Day gives color to the background of the boy's father and how this 'killing for a greater cause' mentality came about. Most sequels tend to go off track at this point, causing the movie not to make much sense, or contradict the original movie. Even the slightest contradiction may ruin a movie, but the Saints manage to join the past recollections with the previous movie.

The movie ends with the notion that Part III is in the making. And if it is anything how I'm picturing, we are in for a treat, folks. Hats off to writer and director Troy Duffy! You have an angle that can be worked for many more Boondock Saints to come.

MEN'S TIGERS...

« continued from page 2

by getting everyone to sign a petition for our cause. We had extreme confidence that our boys would go really far this year." When I asked her about her thoughts and feelings on the game she said, "It feels so great cheering for my RCC boys because they worked so hard to get where they are at. They make me proud to be a part of the cheerleading experience."

Erica Dupervil, RCC student, stated: "I feel very excited, and I am filled with adrenaline because our boys are playing passionately." Student Government Vice President Boromain Jeanty, stated, "Keep up the defense and maintain a more balanced attack, they should take the ball to the rack in order to cause more fouls."

With the start of the second half, the Tigers resumed their defensive presence but Gateway decided to join the party,

picking up their defensive pressure. Gateway caused some early second RCC turnovers by implementing half court traps. The RCC lead was shrunk to 43-39 four minutes into the second half. The referees missed many calls, giving Gateway a huge momentum.

Rakeem Pinkney's substitution into the game added fresh energy to the Tigers' nucleus. A key to the Tigers' success thus far was the substitutions. Gateway wouldn't give up, however. With under a minute left in the contest the Tigers lead was only 63-59. With 6.7 seconds left, Paris Amado got fouled and hits two clutch free throws making it 64-61. The Tigers let Gateway score the final possession of the game making the final score 64-63.

The RCC crowd went wild as the Tigers celebrated on the court. As the Tigers triumphantly cut down their net, I caught up with Rakeem Pinkney for the first celebratory interview.

How does it feel being a champion? Rakeem stated, "It's an unbelievable feeling! My team worked really hard to make

this happen. I'm not surprised that this game ended by one point because we beat them by one point on the home court when they were ranked fifth in the country."

Next I caught up with Greg Young who said, "It means a lot for my teammates and I. For me it means a lot because I didn't have this opportunity in high school. I can't wait for my team and I to go to the nationals."

Coach Kwami Green proudly stated, "That's easy, my coaching staff, Tyrone Baswell, Kenneth Jackson, and DeMarco Lundy, we all wanted to bring national prominence to RCC. We teach our boys that it is very important to have respect for themselves, their teammates and opponents. We discipline them to bring an increased energy on an everyday basis. From the beginning of the season our boys played with an unselfish mentality that gave them an added advantage in the games that they won, especially in today's victory."



ROXBURY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
35<sup>th</sup> Annual Commencement  
Friday, May 21st, 2010  
One O'Clock P.M.  
Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center

POET'S CORNER

The World Is Not Enough  
Dr. S

The world is not enough  
Not to hear my name from  
your voice  
Not to see your face  
Not to inhale your essence

Where in the world would  
I be if I could not share  
with you  
With you all appears to  
clear and what once was  
hidden is lofted into view  
You have that way with me  
and I know I bring that to  
you when I feel you smile  
with me.

The world is not enough  
With all that I have known  
and all that I have felt  
Knowing you can not  
compare  
You are my equal and in  
many ways my admirable  
superior  
I enjoy learning from you  
and sharing my thoughts  
with you  
Your soul and mine must  
have lived together or at  
the very least shared some  
of the same experiences.

If your goodness I can not  
experience then the world  
would not be enough  
I don't want to know a time  
without you  
I wont know who I am if  
you were not you  
I begin you complete  
What you create I  
appreciate  
You are the world to me for  
the world is not enough.

A Poem  
By Hamda Osman

Do you see me? Am I  
invisible to you?  
I'm a flower cover from  
zenith to roots  
In the name of Allah, "god"  
The most merciful,  
The most kind you look at me  
And call me oppressed  
Simply because of the way  
I'm dressed.  
You know me not for what's  
inside,  
You judge the clothing I wear  
with pride.  
My body is not for your eyes  
to hold  
You must speak to my mind.

I am no man's slave,  
It's Allah's pleasure that I only  
crave  
With the right to prosper, the  
right to grow  
I climb mountains across the  
seas  
Expand my mind in all  
degrees  
For God, himself, gave us  
liberty  
For you and me.